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to build theories, he exhibits an unexpected courage that fairly grips the reader. These two notes—one of boldness and one of caution—are distinguishable throughout the volume; each is dominant by turns and it would be difficult to say which is the more convincing. The note of boldness is certainly the more interesting.

The author is evidently over cautious when he rejects all evidence of Tertiary man, or of his precursor, based on the working or utilisation of flint; for such an able, careful, and conservative specialist as the Abbé Breuil accepts unconditionally the artifact nature of certain flints from two distinct Tertiary horizons at Ipswich—one at least as old as the lower Pliocene and the other of upper Pliocene age.

Ultra-conservatism has also dictated his conclusion of the whole matter in regard to the Piltdown man when he says that, owing to the circumstances of its discovery, the Piltdown skull "must be written off as one more of the many pieces of valuable scientific material wasted." (p. 203.)

In Chapter X there is an interesting discussion of the psychology of upper palaeolithic man. In the prehistoric field there are still unscaled heights and unpenetrated depths, and the author is to be complimented on his laudable attempt to bring us nearer to one of these.

GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY

INDONESIA

Through Central Borneo; an account of two years of travel in the land of the head hunters between the years 1913 and 1917. By CARL LUMHOLTZ. 2 vols. Charles Scribners' Sons, New York, 1920.

A work which will give pleasure to many readers. It is a popular account of journeys in and on the borders of the unexplored nucleus of Borneo in contact with unspoiled natives of this fascinating tropical forest. The travel events are well told and the narrative moves with a calmness and balance of statement which is very refreshing. Enough scientific observation of value to the specialist is introduced to bring the reader into the aura of the jungle life with its human and animal denizens and their associations. This picture will be appreciated by scientific students who seek to catch a glimpse of the earlier stages of man.

From Mr. Lumholtz's work we gather that the rust, so to speak, of racial interminglings for many centuries has eaten far into the great island of Borneo, leaving only a central core of what may be considered pure stocks. Very wisely Lumholtz began his investigations far in the interior.

It has appeared wise to the Dutch administration of Borneo, of whose methods Lumholtz speaks highly, to prevent the Malay pressure on the wild tribes, not only to preserve them for scientific study but with the knowledge that they become of less value to the Government when mongrelized. Lumholtz brings out a very interesting feature in changes which have occurred in portions of forest tribes at the river heads who have come in contact with somewhat more advanced tribes down river.

Lumholtz disposes finally of such myths as those regarding tailed peoples and white Borneans.

In the appendix are collected 23 folk tales of some of the tribes visited by the author and special notes on various tribes. There is a good map showing the author's journeys. The photographic illustrations are numerous and excellent.

Some of the topics treated are: Climatic and biological conditions; population; racial problems; meeting Punans, the shy jungle people; Malays versus Dyaks; Kenyas from Central Borneo; funeral ceremonies; priest doctors; feasts; weddings; the Penyah-bongs, men of the woods; the Saputans; ear piercing; among the Penihings; Punans and Bukats, simple minded nomads; a burial cave; omen birds; religious ideas; head-hunting, its practice and purpose; characteristics of the Long-Glats; natives' superiority to civilized man; tatuing the whole body; the flying boat; facts about the Ulu-Ots, the wild men of Borneo; the belief in tailed people; the legend of the ancestor of tailed men; the practice of incision.

WALTER HOUGH

MISCELLANEOUS

L'Eternuement et le Bâillement dans la Magie, l'Ethnographie et le Folklore Médical. P. SAINTYVES. Pp. 143. Paris, 1921.

This little book will be found handy to consult by anyone who, from the point-of-view of ethnography, is interested in the subject of omens. It presents a large amount of remote or esoteric information on sneezing and the kindred phenomenon of yawning as viewed by primitive people and country-folk.

As a corpus of information the book is altogether replete. Its matter, however, is hardly digested. M. Saintyves himself acknowledges the brevity of the comments in which he discusses the features which form the bulk of his book. Such attempts at discussion, he says, "aim to throw light upon that well-known course of evolution